

NEW HAMPSHIRE STATE BUILDING CODE REVIEW BOARD

Minutes of Meeting

May 9, 2003

Attendance:

Tyler Carlisle, Board of Engineers, licensed electrical engineer
Robert Longchamps, NH Electrical Contractors Business Assoc, licensed master electrician
Jerry Tepe, Board of Architects, licensed architect
Tedd Evans, Board for licensing and regulation of plumbers, licensed master plumber
Richard Swain, NH Plumbing & Mechanical Contractors Association
Wes Golomb, State energy conservation code office
William Smagula, PE, Board of Engineers, licensed mechanical engineer
Ray Cowan, Board of Engineers, licensed structural engineer
Fred Baybutt, Associated General contractors, non-residential contractor
Med Kopczynski, Assistant City Manager Keene, NH Municipal Association
Ken Andrews, NH Building Officials Assoc., municipal building official
Michael Santa, Committee on Architectural Barrier, Governor's Commission on Disability

With a quorum of the Board present, acting Chairman Andrews so declared and called the meeting to order. Notice of the public hearing / meeting was posted at the Department of Safety and State House, the State Fire Academy, and the Manchester Union Leader and the Legislative Office Building a minimum of 2 weeks prior to scheduled meeting date.

Adoption of Minutes from 4/11/03 meeting:

Motion was made by Bill Smagula to approve the minutes as written, and was **Seconded** by Fred Baybutt. **Motion** passed unanimously.

Old Business:

Ken Andrews, Chairman for the sub-committee reported that it is a work-in-progress, and there was nothing to report at this time. The final report will be available at the next meeting.

New Business:

News article: Passed out to the members was a photo copy of a news paper article having to deal with email messages sent to Board members just as an informational note.

Letter from Littleton Fire Rescue: Acting Chairman Andrews, asked if Chief Landry was present, recognizing his absence, asked if Med would like to speak on this subject as his name was mentioned in the letter. Med was not aware of this issue. Jerry Tepe voiced a concern in that it is being designed locally, and suggested that the Board might want to get back to them and make them aware that there are courses available that are already developed by the ICC specifically for various training levels, and that might be more efficient and potentially more accurate. Med Kopczynski said that if this Committee feels we can help in this effort, and if this Committee thinks its helpful to help in that process, it might be beneficial. Wes Golomb spoke and clarified the Med mentioned in the letter. It is not Med Kopczynski, but rather abbreviation for Masters in Education. Jerry Tepe stated that there are other groups around the State who have expressed

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an interest in receiving training, and further information on the State Building Code, and it might be a good idea to invite the Chief to speak regarding setting up some sort of uniform training throughout the State, for fire chiefs, building inspectors, contractors, architects, engineers, etc. Fred Baybutt agreed with Jerry Tepe. Tedd Evans commented that this Building Code Committee's web-site would be a great place to post these kinds of training events. Tyler Carlisle commented on he was not sure if we as the State Building Code Review Board, would have any say as to whether courses are put on or not. Acting Chairman Andrews will speak with Chairman Clegg to determine the legality of doing this on the web page.

The removal of the 271-2559 line from the web page: The Board discussed removal of the 2559 line off the web page. Tyler Carlisle made the **Motion** to remove the 2559 line from the State Building Code web page. Jerry Tepe **Seconded** the motion. Vote was in the affirmative with Med Kopczynski voting in negative. Wes Golomb suggested that individual phone reference lines be added to the web site. This was not supported by other members. Med Kopczynski and other do think there needs to be some method of telephone contact available to the public. Safety will check possibilities.

Re-appointment's to Board: Congratulations to Jerry Tepe and to Tyler Carlisle, both have been re-appointed to a 3-year term, starting at the end of their current appointments. Still needing to be re-appointed BEFORE the next meeting are: Chief Thomas Lambert, Joseph Landers and Richard W. Swain.

Other Business:

Jerry Tepe an issue was brought up with Chairman Clegg, and John Stephen, and they suggested that it might come 'officially' come before the Board. The section of the legislation that directs the means of egress to the Life Safety Code, and it needs clarification. Agenda item for the next meeting will be the architects representative to discuss this issue. Mike Santa - finds that comparing Life Safety with IBC there are many times IBC is more strict, and its difficult to determine if that is something we really want to do. Agrees that it should be on the agenda for the next meeting.

Ray Cowan - clarification requested from Jerry where did the question come from . . is it because of a decision that was made, or is it because your people have been reviewing and not sure which way to go? Jerry Tepe: Questions are coming up more frequently and needs to be clarified. His understanding is that when the law was passed, we would ignore Chapter 10 of the International Building Code and go solely by the Life Safety Code. Med Kopczynski - Building departments are not usually authorized to interpret and enforce the fire code. Jerry Tepe - Because its in the building code legislation, you do have the right to enforce this provision out of the Life Safety Code, it is not referencing it through the Fire Code. And we need to have an official clarification, probably posted on the web site.

Med Kopczynski the Height and Area is not in effect, nor is the deletion of the BOCA building code - is that true? Marta Modigliani addressed the question and told the Board that Safety went before the JLCAR and got a preliminary objection. The Height and Area are in effect. The repeal of the BOCA in the State Fire Code isn't in effect yet - but the filing is in. Med Kopczynski stated that the Board should be updated on the progress of this at the next meeting.

Tyler Carlisle was under the impression that each town is required to have their own board of review, so that any local action taken by fire or anybody else could be reviewed by that board in relationship to the state board? Med Kopczynski told Tyler that not on Fire. Mike Santa said that Nashua Fire Department has their own board of appeals, and their building department has their own board of appeals.

Tedd Evans - applicability to state building code to state buildings are they exempt? Jerry Tepe read from the law 'except as provided in 2 and 3 below - **all** buildings constructed in New Hampshire shall . . . ' 2 and 3 do not exempt state buildings from the code. Acting Chairman

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Andrews said this issue was at the Attorney Generals for interpretation and will wait for something from them officially. Med suggested that is the Board is going to be getting into a discussion on this concern, that will be productive it should be that and not injure the Board in doing so.

Next Meeting:

There being no further business to be brought before this Board, Wes Golomb made the **Motion** to adjourn. Rick Swain **Seconded** the motion. Vote was unanimous and so declared by Acting Chairman Andrews declared the meeting closed. The next few meetings will be as follows:

June 13, July 11, August 8, September 12, October 10 and November 14.